



**International
Handball
Federation**



Council Meeting No. 9

09.12.2020 by video conference



Present

Dr Hassan MOUSTAFA (EGY)
Joël DELPLANQUE (FRA)
Mansourou AREMOU (BEN)
Bader AL-THEYAB (KUW)
Michael WIEDERER (AUT)
Anna RAPP (SWE)
Narcisa LECUSANU (ROU)
Dr Frantisek TABORSKY (CZE)
Per BERTELSEN (DEN)
Ramón GALLEGRO (ESP)
Dietrich SPÄTE (GER)
Dr François GNAMIAN (CIV)
Charles OMBOUMAHOU (CGO)
Yoshihide WATANABE (JPN)
Ricardo BLAS (GUM)
Mario GARCIA DE LA TORRE (MEX)
Marcel MANCILLA BRAVO (CHI)

Amal KHALIFA (EGY)
Patric STRUB (GER)
Marisa STERLY (GER)

Excused:

Predrag BOSKOVIC (MNE)

MEETING TIME: 14:00-16:00

Notes: These minutes constitute a record of decisions taken and only contain the most important spoken contributions. The proceeding of this meeting was recorded. The record is kept at the Head Office in Basel.

President Moustafa as usual abstained from voting.

President
1st Vice-President
IHF Vice-President Africa
IHF Vice-President Asia
IHF Vice-President Europe
Treasurer
Executive Committee Member
Executive Committee Member
COC Chairman
PRC Chairman
CCM Chairman
MC Chairman
IHF Representative Africa
IHF Representative Asia
IHF Representative Oceania
IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean
IHF Representative South and Central America

General Director
Competitions Director
IHF Head Office

IHF Representative Europe



Agenda

- 1. Minutes**
 - 1.1. Council Meeting No. 8, 16 July 2020 by video conference
- 2. President's activities**
- 3. Competitions**
 - 3.1. 2021 Men's World Championship in EGY
 - 3.1.1. Progress report
 - 3.1.2. COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan
- 4. Finances**
 - 4.1. Auditors' report 2019
- 5. IHF Regulations**
 - 5.1. Regulations for IHF Competitions
 - 5.2. Ball Regulations
 - 5.3. Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines
- 6. Continents**
 - 6.1. Report from the continents
- 7. Miscellaneous**
 - 7.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication



Council Meeting Minutes

President Moustafa opened the meeting, welcoming the Council members to the meeting held by video conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed his hopes that all Council members as well as their families are in good health.

He informed the Council about the passing of Juan de Dios Román, former Spain men's national team coach, Royal Spanish Handball Federation President and IHF Commission of Coaching and Methods (CCM) member on 28 November 2020. On behalf of the international handball family, he conveyed his sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Referring to the Women's EHF EURO 2020 currently taking place in Denmark with strict hygiene guidelines, he conveyed his gratitude to the IHF Vice-President Europe and wished him good luck with the organisation of the event.

1. Minutes

1.1. Council Meeting No. 8, 16 July 2020 by video conference

President Moustafa presented the minutes of the 8th Council Meeting, which was held by video conference on 16 July 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting No. 8 held by video conference on 16 July 2020.

2. President's activities

President Moustafa informed the Council that he has been working from Cairo since August 2020 in order to prepare for the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt. He gave the floor to the General Director who presented an overview of the President's activities since the last IHF Council meeting in July 2020, including but not limited to the following:

24 July 2020: ANOCA Ethics Commission Meeting by video conference

17 August 2020: Opening of 1st IHF Children's Handball Week (as part of the IHF Virtual Academy)

5 September 2020: 2021 IHF Men's World Championship draw event at the Giza Pyramids Plateau in Egypt which was attended by Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy as well as Presidents of several National Federations, ambassadors and other international guests.

5 October 2020: Opening of 1st IHF Beach Handball Week (as part of the IHF Virtual Academy)

15 October 2020: 1st IHF Top Coaches and Referees Discussion Forum on Game and Rules Development (as part of the IHF Virtual Academy)

17 October 2020: Opening of 1st IHF Wheelchair Handball Seminar (as part of the IHF Virtual Academy)

20 October 2020: Opening of 1st IHF Medical Webinar Series (as part of the IHF Virtual Academy)

26 October 2020: Inspection visit to 6th of October Sports Hall together with Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Egyptian Housing and Urban Communities Minister Dr Assem El-Gazzar, and Egyptian Handball Federation President Hesham Nasr among others

29 October 2020: Meeting with top European nations and Egypt 2021 team representatives by video



Council Meeting Minutes

conference

6 November 2020: International World Games Association (IWGA) Remote Annual General Meeting 2020

9 November 2020: 44th General Assembly of Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) by video conference

10 November 2020: General Assembly of Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) by video conference

11 November 2020: Meeting with Egyptian Prime Minister H.E. Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy, and Egyptian Minister of Health and Population Dr Hala Zayed among others to review the Egypt 2021 COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan: Formation of the Working Group of Ministries of the Arab Republic of Egypt (composed of representatives of IHF and eight Egyptian ministries) to discuss details of spectator attendance during the World Championship among other topics.

25 November 2020: ANOCA Review and Reform Committee Meeting by video conference

3 December 2020: Egypt 2021 Virtual International Press Conference at the Egyptian Ministry of Youth and Sports in Cairo, which was attended by Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy and Egypt 2021 Medical Commission Chairman Prof. Hazem Khamis, to provide an overall update on the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in general, and the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan in particular.

The General Director informed about another planned meeting with the Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Egypt 2021 Medical Commission Chairman Prof. Hazem Khamis and Egypt 2021 Organising Committee Director Hussein Labib to further discuss the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan.

Decision

The Council took note of and approved the President's activities and appreciated the efforts he made for the worldwide development of handball.

3. Competitions

3.1. 2021 Men's World Championship in EGY

3.1.1. Progress report

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who provided a brief progress report of the 2021 Men's World Championship to the Council. In terms of infrastructure, he reported on the construction of the three new venues as well as the full renovation of Cairo Stadium. Thanks to the intervention of President Moustafa, all four venues are now ready to host the World Championship, considering that small cosmetic changes are yet to be carried out.

He explained that the IHF has been in constant contact with all participating teams, stating that all 32 qualified teams confirmed their participation in the World Championship. He added that the IHF received many questions and requests from the different stakeholders involved in the World Championship on the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan, which the IHF has been answering in coordination with the Egypt 2021 Medical Commission.

Decision

The Council took note of the information provided by the Competitions Director related to the preparations of the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt.



Council Meeting Minutes

3.1.2. COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan

President Moustafa gave the floor to the Competitions Director who presented the latest edition of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan for Egypt 2021 which has been developed by the Egypt 2021 Medical Commission in coordination with the Preventive Medical Sector of the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population.

He stated that the key element of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan is a bubble concept aiming to minimise the transmission of COVID-19 infections before, during and after the World Championship in Egypt. All the stakeholders involved in the World Championship should enter the bubble without any external contact within three days before and throughout the event. In addition, all stakeholders travelling to Egypt must isolate themselves from the date of the PCR test (within 72 hours before the arrival date) until arrival to Egypt. All stakeholders involved in the World Championship shall stay in the bubble.

Referring to training camps being held in the home countries of the participating teams prior to the World Championship, he informed that each team shall hire a medically trained hygiene officer responsible for the compliance with the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan and the protective measures as advised by the World Health Organization and other health authorities. All players should be systematically examined (pre-competition medical assessment, blood picture, electrocardiogram (ECG), echocardiogram, chest X-ray), considering that the results of the pre-competition medical assessment shall be communicated to the IHF and the Egypt 2021 Medical Commission. Before regular team training, at least one PCR test is required of everyone involved in training operations – preferably within 5 days (inclusive) of the day before training starts. Each National Federation shall regularly report its entire training plan, testing procedures, and test results to the IHF and the Egypt 2021 Medical Commission. In case of friendly matches, the other teams must be either within the same bubble or within their own bubble.

He pointed out that the following COVID-19 officers and medical staff will be appointed by the Egypt 2021 Medical Commission in coordination with the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population:

- Event chief medical officer
- IHF COVID-19 officers (one per IHF hotel)
- Teams' COVID-19 officers (one per participating team)
- Arena medical teams (each team consisting of four persons)
- Hotel medical teams (each team consisting of four persons)

In this context, the following medical facilities will be provided throughout the event:

- Arena medical aid points
- Hotel medical aid points
- Five COVID-19 isolation rooms at hotels
- COVID-19 referral hospitals
- Main referral hospital: Wadi El-Neel
- Ambulance services
- Laboratories

Upon arrival to Egypt, every person entering the country is required to provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test carried out within 72 hours before the arrival date. Furthermore, every stakeholder involved in the World Championship is required to undergo a rapid COVID-19 antigen test at the airport upon arrival. A separate terminal at Cairo airport will be available for all stakeholders. On the arrival day, every stakeholder shall additionally perform a PCR test at the hotel. Afterwards, all stakeholders belonging to the bubble shall repeat the PCR test within every 72 hours. The PCR tests will be conducted by the Central Public Health Laboratories



Council Meeting Minutes

accredited by the Egyptian Accreditation Council (EGAC) in compliance with the requirements of ISO 15189:2012. Any positive case shall be confirmed by a second laboratory (audit laboratory).

Any stakeholder involved in the World Championship who develops any respiratory or flu-like symptoms (e.g. fever equal or higher than 38°C, cough or difficulty in breathing) must be isolated in the COVID-19 isolation room at the hotel, be tested and inform the respective COVID-19 officer. Any stakeholder involved in the World Championship who was in direct contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case should be tested accordingly and be isolated until the test result is issued. If any team member tested positive, any direct contact person, the whole team delegation concerned as well as the whole delegation of the team against which they have played since the last negative PCR test, including the IHF nominees officiating the match concerned, will be tested. Asymptomatic confirmed cases will be isolated in the COVID-19 isolation room at the hotel until the test result of the audit laboratory has been issued while symptomatic confirmed cases are transferred to the referral isolation sector for treatment. The stakeholders concerned may leave the referral isolation sector after two negative PCR tests within 72 hours. All stakeholders may directly return to their regular activities except for players and referees who may return to the field of play between 10 and 14 days from the date of infection.

Despite the bubble concept, all stakeholders must adhere to strict hygiene guidelines at all times, i.e. maintaining physical distancing of 1.5 metres to other persons where possible; respecting hand hygiene guidelines, rules of personal hygiene and especially good respiratory hygiene practices; wearing face masks, i.e. surgical or medical masks, in all closed premises at all times, except for players, team officials and referees during matches or trainings. All surfaces throughout the premises will be periodically cleaned and disinfected. Personal Protective Equipment (hand disinfectant, face masks) will be made available for all event participants.

International and local transportation procedures include but are not limited to dedicated vehicles for each category of stakeholders throughout their stay, chessboard seating arrangement in buses and body temperature screening before entering the bus.

Accommodation precautions include but are not limited to routine temperature checks, regular room disinfection and cleaning, and disinfection of high-traffic areas.

In addition to constant disinfection as well as strict entrance and exit regulations applicable for training halls and arenas, each arena will contain a bubble zone which is exclusively reserved for stakeholders entering the bubble without any external contact within three days before and throughout the event. The VIP area will be accessible only with a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours before. Handshaking between the two teams, referees, timekeeper and scorekeeper during the pre-match procedure is prohibited. Child escorts and assemblies (e.g. team photos, opening ceremony with extra VIPs) are not allowed. Time spent in changing rooms must be restricted to the minimum necessary. Players are recommended to put on the players' uniform at the hotel before going to the arena or training hall, and shall take a shower at their hotel rooms.

The number of media representatives and broadcasting staff members will be kept at a minimum depending on the capacity of the arena, taking into consideration that only media in the bubble are allowed in the media areas in the arena. The bubble zone contains broadcast compounds and trucks, media tribunes, media rooms, photographer positions, Flash Zone and Mixed Zone. Press conferences after the matches shall be held virtually.

The Competitions Director informed that the number of spectators allowed to attend the matches in the arenas currently corresponds to 30% of the venue capacity as decided by the Egyptian Minister of Health and Population and announced at the virtual press conference held on 3 December 2020. Any person showing



Council Meeting Minutes

symptoms indicative of COVID-19 or having a temperature of 38°C or higher is not allowed to enter the arena. Hand disinfectant should be used regularly and masks must be worn at any time from entering the arena until exiting. Spectators are only allowed in the spectator area. Any staff working in the spectator area must not mix with anyone working in the other zones. A safety zone will be installed between the bubble zone and the spectator area.

As the IHF Representative Oceania asked if any initiative has been made in terms of obtaining vaccines for the stakeholders involved in the World Championship, President Moustafa commented that at this point of time it is still uncertain whether the existing vaccine is safe and effective. He added that it would be very difficult to obtain the required number of vaccines in such short period of time.

The IHF Vice-President Europe reported on the challenges in implementing the EHF's Hygiene Protocol at the Women's EHF EURO currently being staged in Denmark, stressing the huge organisational effort to organise the bubble concept. He conveyed his thanks to the Danish Handball Federation for their collaboration in having the EHF's Hygiene Protocol accepted by the Danish authorities. Referring to the long list of stakeholders staying within the bubble during the World Championship in Egypt, he drew the attention to the fact that all these stakeholders will not be entitled to leave the hotel throughout their stay except for going to the arena. He reported that the entering into the bubble worked during the Women's EHF EURO, considering that three cases were detected in two teams prior to the start while no further cases have occurred since then. However, several problems have been faced with different European teams in respecting and implementing the hygiene guidelines. According to the instruction of the Danish authorities, the stakeholders concerned should have been sent home even for minor delicts. Referring to the World Championship in Egypt, he pointed out that major efforts are required to make all stakeholders understand the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan and ensure their compliance with all provisions, in particular taking into account that several teams will take part in the World Championship for the first time.

The COC Chairman stressed the importance of clearly explaining the guidelines of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan to all stakeholders involved in the World Championship and of imposing sanctions in case of violation of the provisions. He reported on the difficulties of the teams to stay inside the hotel for the entire period of the event. Therefore, during the Women's EHF EURO, the Danish Handball Federation found a solution allowing the teams to go by bus to a special designated area outside without any external contact.

Executive Committee Member Dr Frantisek Taborsky, who is attending the Women's EHF EURO as IHF Representative, conveyed his appreciation to the European Handball Federation and Danish Handball Federation for organising the Women's EHF EURO under highly challenging circumstances. He remarked that the EHF's Hygiene Protocol differs from the IHF's COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan, as the EHF applies different zones (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) while the IHF implements one overall bubble zone for all stakeholders within the bubble.

President Moustafa asked the IHF Vice-President Europe, Executive Committee Member Dr Frantisek Taborsky and the COC Chairman to provide the IHF with a report and/or evaluation immediately after the Women's EHF EURO in order to benefit from the EHF's experience. He confirmed that any non-compliance with the obligations of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan will lead to sanctions depending on the type of violation committed.

President Moustafa stated that the handball family needs to learn to live alongside COVID-19 as it is uncertain when the COVID-19 pandemic will come to an end. He emphasised again that the financial situation of the IHF is healthy and financial revenue is the last reason for the 2021 Men's World Championship to be held. Handball players as well as coaches and referees should have the possibility to practise their beloved sport



Council Meeting Minutes

on a global level again.

Referring to the COVID-19-Related Regulations for the 2021 Men's World Championship (Annex 2 of COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan), which have been approved by the Council via electronic communication (please refer to agenda item 7.1.), President Moustafa, in view of the significance of the matter, asked the Council members to reconfirm the Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations as well as the related legal procedures. The IHF Vice-President Europe stressed the importance of ensuring that the decisions to be taken by the IHF are proportionate, taking into consideration the respective situation in each case.

Decision

The Council took note of the presentation of the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan for Egypt 2021 and unanimously reconfirmed the Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations as well as the related legal procedures.

4. Finances

4.1. Auditors' report 2019

Internal IHF auditors:

The Treasurer took the floor, presenting to the Council the report of the internal IHF auditors who verified the bookkeeping and annual accounts (balance sheet and profit and loss accounts) of the IHF for the financial year 2019. The internal auditors confirmed in their report that the bookkeeping and annual accounts are consistent with the provisions of Swiss law and IHF Statutes as well as IHF Council and Executive Committee decisions.

External IHF auditors:

The Treasurer presented to the Council the report of the external IHF auditors (Copartner Revision AG) who audited the financial statements of the IHF, comprising the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019, the income statement, the cash flow statement and notes for the year 2019. The external auditors confirmed in their report that the financial statements for the year 2019 comply with Swiss law and the IHF Statutes and Regulations.

The Treasurer added that the IHF earned a profit of CHF 9,231,873 in 2019, which will benefit the further development and promotion of handball worldwide. She conveyed her thanks to the IHF General Director and the Financial Department for the excellent collaboration.

As the IHF Representative South and Central America asked about effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the IHF's financial situation, the General Director clarified that the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic occurred after the balance sheet date and therefore has no effect on the IHF values reported in the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019. She explained that economic uncertainty is increasing significantly, as reflected for example in volatile market prices and exchange rates, adding that the effects of the pandemic on the net assets, financial position and results of operations will be reflected in the auditors' report for the financial year 2020.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the internal and external auditors' report 2019 to be presented to the 2021 Ordinary IHF Congress in Antalya, TUR.



Council Meeting Minutes

5. IHF Regulations

5.1. Regulations for IHF Competitions

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director to present the amendments to the Regulations for IHF Competitions, which had been communicated to the Council prior to the meeting (complete file available [here](#)). The Council members commented on the following amendments:

I. BASIC PRINCIPLES

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. Scope of application

According to Art. 3 of the IHF Statutes, the International Handball Federation (IHF) shall *ensure the organisation of all IHF competitions*. Further, it shall also hold, on behalf of the IOC, the Olympic Handball Tournaments for men and women. *This regulation is applicable with its principles for all IHF competitions, but especially for the following competitions:*

- World Championships for men, women, men's juniors (U21), women's juniors (U20), men's youth (U19), women's youth (U18), ~~beach handball~~, qualifying rounds for World Championships and Olympic Games, ~~World Cups for club teams and national teams~~ Intercontinental Cup and Super Globe.

Justification:

- Separate regulations for beach handball competitions are to be created.
- Official names of IHF competitions should be used.

Executive Committee Member Dr Frantisek Taborsky proposed to amend the title of the regulations to "Regulations for IHF Competitions (Indoor Handball)" and to create separate regulations not only for beach handball competitions but also for wheelchair handball competitions.

II. MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. QUALIFICATION AND ENTRIES

1.1. Participants

1.1.2. Distribution of compulsory and performance places

All hosting federations are automatically entitled to take part at the World Championship. If there is more than one (1) organiser from the same Continental Confederation, the number of compulsory places of the respective Continental Confederation shall be reduced accordingly. If there is more than one (1) organiser and the organisers are not from the same Continental Confederation, the IHF Council shall decide.

Justification:

To avoid difficulties with multiple organisers from different Continental Confederations.

The IHF Vice-President Europe remarked that the wording of the last sentence related to more than one organiser coming from different Continental Confederations is too general. He requested to clarify the wording



Council Meeting Minutes

to ensure that only the number of compulsory places of the Continental Confederations concerned may be reduced.

II. MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

6. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

6.2. Expenses to be borne by the participating teams

6.2.6. Additional participants

Delegation members 22 to 30 are considered as additional participants. The daily rate for additional participants is fixed by the organiser and will be published in the official announcement. This daily rate shall be the same as for additional days.

In case the participating federation fails to pay the **daily rate** for additional participants, **the IHF and the organiser will consider them to arrive with a delegation of 21 persons and all arrangements shall be made accordingly.**

Justification:

- To have the same daily rate for additional days and additional participants, thus avoiding situations occurred at previous IHF competitions when the costs to be borne by teams were too high.
- To clarify that in case of failure to pay for additional participants, and especially delegation members 22 to 24, the delegation will be considered as a 21-person delegation (even though the definitive list consists of 18 players and 6 officials).

The IHF Vice-President Europe recommended that the daily rate for additional participants and additional days proposed by the organiser is subject to approval by the IHF.

II. MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

2. COMPETITION SYSTEM

2.4. Match schedule

2.4.1. Establishing principles

On request of media, TV or other international bodies, the IHF COC may decide on an alternative schedule, following the above-mentioned principles. For instance, an opening match could be held on day 0. A different allocation of teams to compose the main round and President's Cup groups or a different pairing of teams in the match scheme may be implemented. This allocation shall be determined before the draw and the teams shall be informed accordingly.

Justification:

Following the implementation of the new competition format with 32 teams, modifications of the match scheme should be possible for organisational reasons.

As the IHF Vice-President Europe asked for a clarification of the last two sentences, the Competitions Director explained that the IHF should have the possibility to modify the match scheme if it is deemed necessary for organisational and logistical reasons before the draw event (for example in case of the President's Cup: 4th ranked team of group A to play against 4th ranked team of group C instead of group B).



Council Meeting Minutes

I. BASIC PRINCIPLES

7. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR IHF EVENTS

7.4. Team services

7.4.1. Delegation size

During an IHF event, a standard delegation is composed of 24 persons, 18 players and 6 officials. The maximum number of persons per delegation is limited to 30. However, the organiser may decide to increase the maximum delegation size. The maximum limit will be communicated to the teams in the official announcement.

Costs incurred for each delegation member are borne by the participating teams or the organiser, according to the provisions laid down in each competition section.

The participating teams shall announce their delegation size (total number of players and staff members travelling with the delegation) to the IHF and the organiser in due time prior to event and as laid down in the respective official announcement. If officially registered by the corresponding national federation and the conditions and requirements outlined by the organiser have been respected, all delegation members shall have the same rights and duties.

Justification:

- To include payment provisions to inform teams of the basic requirements.
- To define more clearly the costs to be borne by the organiser and thus avoiding situations occurred at previous IHF competitions.
- To remove discrepancies between the competitions (organiser's costs vs participating teams' costs).
- To extend the provision related to additional days applicable for Junior/Youth events to all competitions in order to give a framework to the teams and the organiser on early arrival and late departure.
- To clarify the organisation and payment of extra services for teams.
- To clarify the limit of delegation size, based on experience with organisers of previous IHF competitions.

The IHF Vice-President Europe recommended to define more precisely the difference between a standard delegation (24 persons, 18 players and 6 officials) and the number of delegation members to be covered by the organiser (21 persons, 16 players and 5 officials) to avoid confusion.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the Regulations for IHF Competitions, taking into consideration the above-mentioned input from the Council members.

5.2. Ball Regulations

President Moustafa gave the floor to the General Director who informed the Council that following the IHF Council decisions dated 1 July 2019 and 11 March 2020, additional amendments are necessary to the IHF Ball Regulations in view of the agreement concluded between IHF and the Swiss ball testing institute Empa. In addition, a third category of IHF seal of approval is proposed to be introduced solely for ball testing purposes, for example for the season test as per Article 21.1 of the IHF Statutes, as recommended by the IHF lawyer. She



Council Meeting Minutes

presented the following amendments to the Ball Regulations to the Council:

Article 1:

There are ~~three~~ **two** categories of IHF approval:

IHF APPROVED PRO: for all official IHF matches as well as other international and elite level national matches.

IHF APPROVED: for all elite level national matches.

IHF Seal of Approval for Testing Purposes.

Article 5.1.:

3. To allow the technical requirements to be checked, at least ~~five~~ **six** balls of each type of ball shall be sent, free of charge, to the IHF together with the application, **while at least seven balls of each type of ball shall be sent, free of charge, to the service provider of the IHF.**

7. Upon application, the IHF may award an IHF seal of approval to a ball manufacturer only for ball testing purposes in accordance with Article 21.1 of the IHF Statutes. The same application procedure as indicated above shall be followed. In addition to the costs incurred in connection with the ball inspection as outlined above, all costs related to the season test as per Article 21.1 of the IHF Statutes shall be covered by the ball manufacturer.

Article 5.2.:

IHF approved balls must be clearly printed, in colour, with the official IHF logo (~~3.5cm high~~) and the designation 'IHF APPROVED PRO', ~~or~~ 'IHF APPROVED' or 'IHF Seal of Approval for Testing Purposes' as follows:
[...]

c) Handballs played with/without resin for testing purposes

IHF SEAL OF APPROVAL
FOR TESTING PURPOSES



IHF SEAL OF APPROVAL
FOR TESTING PURPOSES



Article 6:

1. On payment of the licence fee **following the approval of the IHF and the service provider of the IHF**, the manufacturer gains the right to affix the IHF seal of approval to balls of the tested and approved type. The licence takes the form of a contract **valid for one year** drawn up by the IHF Head Office.

2. The licence fee shall be paid ~~annually in Swiss francs~~ **to the IHF bank account** ~~and~~, on conclusion of the contract. ~~it shall be paid immediately for the current contractual year. For all subsequent years, it shall be paid by one month prior to the expiration of the contractual year.~~

3. ~~The contract shall be extended by tacit agreement if the contracting parties do not exercise their right of termination.~~ **The contract shall be renewed upon request of the ball manufacturer and after IHF's approval. Any renewal shall be subject to a new contract between the ball manufacturer and the IHF.**

4. ~~If one of the contracting parties is no longer interested in awarding or using the IHF seal of approval, it shall notify the other party by registered post, at least three months prior to the expiration of the contractual year. If notice of the termination is not received in good time, the contract shall be valid for a further year.~~

Appendix 2:

SPECIMEN STANDARD CONTRACT



Council Meeting Minutes

- BALLS -

Since English is the IHF's first official language, contracts are only composed in English.

[...]

§ 1 Subject of the contract

The IHF shall grant the Ball Manufacturer the IHF seal of approval for handballs and, in accordance with the IHF Ball Regulations, the right to imprint the balls it produces as mentioned under § 42 with the clear coloured imprint, containing the IHF logo (3.5cm high) and the designation 'IHF APPROVED PRO', or 'IHF APPROVED' or 'IHF Seal of Approval for Testing Purposes' as follows:

[...]

c) Handballs played with/without resin for testing purposes

[...]

A sample of the IHF logo shall be provided to the Ball Manufacturer, if necessary, at the time the contract comes into force.

In addition to the above-mentioned designations, the Ball Manufacturer is entitled to refer to the test report produced by the service provider of the IHF regarding the testing of the balls concerned. Such right may only be exercised from the issuance date of the test report by the service provider of the IHF until the end date of the granting of the IHF seal of approval. Shall the contract be renewed, in accordance with § 6 of the present contract, the Ball Manufacturer may refer to the test report during up to three consecutive contracts, thus for a maximum of three years.

In case the Ball Manufacturer wishes to renew the contract after the third consecutive contract has expired, a new report shall be produced by the service provider of the IHF.

The reference must be made as follows:

"Empa Test Report No. [corresponding test report number] dated [corresponding Empa test report's issuance date]"

The Ball Manufacturer is prohibited to use the logo of the service provider of the IHF.

[...]

§ 2 Obligations of the Ball Manufacturer

1. The Ball Manufacturer must send the ball(s) to be tested to the IHF as well as to the service provider of the IHF. Seven (7) balls, at least, of each type, if applicable, shall be provided to the service provider of the IHF. One ball will be retained by the service provider of the IHF for archive purposes. Six (6) balls, at least, of each type, if applicable, shall be provided to the IHF to conduct the ball grip test. One ball will be retained by the IHF for archive purposes.

2. The Ball Manufacturer must provide the IHF with all relevant information/documentation in order to conduct the testing of the balls. This information/documentation includes, but is not limited to:

- Ball type and size
- Ball name
- Ball Manufacturer's name and address

§ 3 Liability

The IHF as well as the service provider of the IHF shall be only liable for any damages resulting from unlawful intent or gross negligence in performing their contractual obligations. The IHF shall not be liable for any



Council Meeting Minutes

damage that might result from a delay in communication between the IHF and the Ball Manufacturer. Furthermore, the IHF shall not be liable for any damage caused by the service provider assigned by the IHF to conduct the testing of the balls. Any further liability is excluded to the maximum extent permitted by the law applicable to this contract.

§ 42 Specification of ball types

The rights listed under § 1 shall be granted **only** to the following ball types ~~exclusively~~: [...]

Should the Ball Manufacturer require the rights listed under § 1 for further ~~of its~~ products, an additional ~~or~~ **amended** contract shall be necessary.

§ 53 Licence fee

According to a decision of the IHF Executive Committee the annual licence fee has been set at CHF..... (Swiss francs) for **one** ~~the first contractual~~ year.

The licence fee ~~for the first contractual year, from to~~ is payable upon the contract's conclusion **and** ~~For all subsequent years it shall be paid by one month prior to the expiration of the contractual year into the following IHF bank account:~~

~~Account holder: Internationale Handball Federation~~

~~Bank name: Raiffeisenbank Birsig-Genossenschaft~~

~~Bank address: Hauptstrasse 16; CH-4104 Oberwil~~

~~BIC/Swift: RAIFCH22774~~

~~CHF account number: 51859.40~~

~~IBAN: CH07 8077 4000 0051 8594 0~~

Bank: Bank CIC (Schweiz) AG, 4001 Basel

IBAN CHF: CH15 0871 0043 4600 5200 1

IBAN EUR: CH85 0871 0043 4600 5200 2

IBAN USD: CH58 0871 0043 4600 5200 3

SIC / Clearing number: 08710

SWIFT-BIC: CIALCHBB

Account holder: International Handball Federation

On payment of the licence fee **following the approval of the IHF and the service provider of the IHF**, the Ball Manufacturer gains the right to affix the official IHF seal of approval to balls of the tested and approved type(s).

~~At the time that annual payment is made, the Ball Manufacturer shall notify the IHF in confidence of the previous year's production figures for the individual ball types as mentioned under § 2 of this contract. The IHF is obliged not to make this figure known to any third parties except the members of the Executive Committee.~~

~~§ 4~~ IHF logo

~~A sample of the IHF logo shall be provided to the Ball Manufacturer, if necessary, at the time the contract comes into force.~~

§ 65 Duration of contract

This contract shall be valid **for one year starting from the signing of the contract**. ~~until further notice, at the earliest from~~



Council Meeting Minutes

~~The contract shall be considered automatically renewed for another contractual year upon request of the Ball Manufacturer and after IHF's approval. Any renewal shall be subject to a new contract between the Ball Manufacturer and the IHF, unless the Ball Manufacturer or the IHF exercises its rights pursuant to § 6.~~

§ 7 IHF's duty to provide information

~~The IHF is obliged to indicate to its affiliated Member Federations at least once a year the existence of shall display all balls mentioned in this contract in the section reserved for IHF seals of approval on the [IHF official website's marketing page](#), and recommend their use.~~

§ 8 Termination of contract

~~The contract shall terminate according to the IHF Ball Regulations.~~

~~The IHF shall have the possibility to terminate the contract if the Ball Manufacturer refers to the test report of the service provider of the IHF without complying with the applicable terms mentioned in § 1 and fails to correct this erroneous reference within 20 days after the IHF's notification.~~

~~The IHF shall have the possibility to terminate the contract, with immediate effect, in case the Ball Manufacturer misuses the IHF logo and/or uses the logo for other balls (different size, quality, and name etc.) than the approved one(s) and/or culpably breaches its obligations under this contract.~~

~~The IHF shall have the possibility to terminate the contract, with immediate effect, in case the Ball Manufacturer's reputation is in a way significantly and publicly damaged, giving the IHF comprehensible reason to believe that this may threaten its reputation as well.~~

§ 8 Advertising

~~The Ball Manufacturer shall have the right to advertise sporadically or regularly in the IHF World Handball Magazine, in return for a contribution to printing costs.~~

§ 9 Language

~~Since English is the first IHF's official language, contracts are only composed and interpreted in English.~~

§ 10 Miscellaneous

~~The Ball Manufacturer may not assign or transfer this contract nor any rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of the IHF.~~

~~This contract constitutes the entire agreement between the Ball Manufacturer and the IHF concerning the subject matter hereof. There do not exist any written or verbal amendments.~~

~~Any alterations of this contract are void unless they are made in writing and signed by the IHF and the Ball Manufacturer. This also applies to an agreement to waive this requirement.~~

§ 11 Place of jurisdiction

~~According to Article 1.6 of the IHF Statutes, the IHF shall be subject to Swiss law. Therefore, this contract shall be governed and interpreted by Swiss law. The place of jurisdiction shall be Basle, Switzerland, where the IHF Head Office is located.~~

[...]

The General Director also informed the Council that the licence fees (per year) have been adapted as follows:



Council Meeting Minutes

Old: CHF 2,000

New:

IHF Approved PRO – CHF 35,000

IHF Approved – CHF 20,000

IHF Approved PRO Resin-Free – CHF 35,000

IHF Approved Resin-Free – CHF 20,000

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the Ball Regulations.

5.3. Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines

President Moustafa gave the floor to the PRC Chairman who presented the following amendments to the Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines to the Council:

XVII. Penalties Imposed for Actions Occurred During Play

For actions occurred during play, the Disciplinary Commission upon a written report from the Competition Management may impose the following types of penalties either individually or jointly:

[...]

Disqualification (on account of misconduct towards IHF officials or referees):

[...]

Post-match review

After a match, the IHF official as well as the PRC member responsible for the match in question shall be entitled to review the following conduct/action of a player, which should have been punished during play but went unnoticed by the officials:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct aiming to cause the disqualification of an opponent

- Particularly reckless, dangerous, premeditated or malicious action according to Rule 8:6

After reviewing the conduct/action concerned, the IHF official and PRC member responsible for the match in question shall report to the Competition Management accordingly. The Competition Management shall in turn submit a report, including a proposal, to the Disciplinary Commission which will decide on punishing the player concerned accordingly. The reports shall also be notified to the player's team.

Recommended suspension: Min. 1 match

When the penalty is determined, the following mitigating circumstances shall be considered:

[...]

Justification:

This provision aims to increase fair play and reduce aggressiveness in handball. A strong signal should be sent to show that the IHF is taking care of the health of the players by eliminating dangerous behaviour of the players. The IHF Council discussed this issue in its meeting on 27 February 2020 and approved the provision in principle in its meeting on 29 April 2020.

The IHF Vice-President Europe expressed concerns about the wording in "conduct/action of a player, which should have been punished during play but went unnoticed by the officials".

The PRC Chairman replied that the proposed amendment only refers to actions which were not seen by the



Council Meeting Minutes

referees, while decisions made by the referees on the basis of their observations of facts or their judgments are final according to the Rules of the Game.

President Moustafa emphasised once more the necessity of reducing aggressiveness in handball.

Decision

The Council unanimously approved the amendments to the Regulations concerning Penalties and Fines.

6. Continents

6.1. Report from the continents

President Moustafa asked the continental representatives to provide a brief report on the handball activities in the continents.

The IHF Vice-President Africa took the floor, informing that in 2020 no physical handball activities have taken place in Africa and no additional financial resource has been generated despite the fact that Africa is not severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. He reported that CAHB, apart from several online education courses for various stakeholders, organised online meetings with the qualified African teams of the 2021 Men's World Championship to explain to them the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan and ensure their compliance with all provisions, considering that some of the teams are participating in the Men's World Championship for the first time. He briefly informed about the programmes to be established for 2021, expressing his hopes for continuous support from the IHF, aiming to maintain different handball projects in Africa in the light of COVID-19.

President Moustafa confirmed that the IHF will be in contact with CAHB to continue supporting the development of handball in Africa, taking into consideration that for the first time ever seven teams from the African continent will participate in the IHF Men's World Championship.

The IHF Vice-President Europe took the floor, reporting that the Preliminary Round of the Women's EHF EURO 2020 in Denmark has come to an end, with a few surprising results from a sporting point of view. He also informed that many matches of European club competitions had to be postponed, pointing out the efforts to find alternative dates, mentioning the busy schedule of many top clubs in spring 2021. He stated that the 2019/20 VELUX EHF FINAL4 (Men's Champions League) will be played in Cologne on 28/29 December 2020, considering that once again a hygiene protocol with a bubble concept will be applied. Furthermore, he reported that the qualification for the Men's EHF EURO 2022 in HUN/SVK has started, considering that several matches had to be postponed due to COVID-19. He stressed the importance for the National Federations to compete in these matches, e.g. due to existing contracts.

The IHF Vice-President Asia took the floor, informing that AHF, in cooperation with the Korean Handball Academy, have organised many online referee and coaching courses, including category C coaching courses, to help the stakeholders staying active and healthy. In addition, category B coaching courses with the support of IHF are currently being held, where IHF and AHF experts are sharing their knowledge and experiences with the Asian expert coaches. He reported on the Beach Handball Week, Wheelchair Handball Week and Children's Handball Week which were celebrated in Asia and in which many Asian federations took part by organising related events. He outlined that most of the Member Federations held meetings for players and officials to inform about medical precautions and raise the awareness of the measures to limit the



Council Meeting Minutes

transmission of COVID-19. He added that AHF approached all hosting federations of upcoming AHF events requesting latest information on venues, health requirements including quarantine rules and arrival and departure screening procedures by local authorities. He thanked President Moustafa, the IHF Council, the IHF General Director and the IHF staff for their continuous support.

The IHF Representative South and Central America took the floor, informing the Council about the activities of SCAHC in 2020, stating that only one handball championship could be organised, namely the Senior Men's Championship held in Maringa, Brazil in January 2020, taking into consideration that all other planned competitions had to be cancelled or postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many online activities were carried out via Zoom and YouTube (promoted via the SCAHC website and social media channels), including but not limited to seminars related to indoor handball, beach handball and wheelchair handball. He pointed out that 13,000 attendees took part in the online activities via Zoom and that the corresponding videos on the YouTube channel reached 34,000 views (from April to August 2020). He also provided brief information about the training and mentoring programmes carried out by the SCAHC Playing Rules and Referees Commission (PRC) to assist referees from every country to become future IHF referees. Furthermore, he reported on the preparation of several didactical material by the SCAHC PRC in collaboration with the IHF PRC. Moreover, he mentioned the new challenges of SCAHC, which require the support from the IHF, such as the development programme for coaching education, the establishment of Handball Academies in every country as well as the preparation of online tools on demand in different languages (English, Spanish, Portuguese). He also referred to a letter sent by SCAHC to IHF regarding the appointment of representatives from South and Central America to the IHF Commissions.

The General Director remarked that the appointment of IHF Commission members will be on the agenda of the next IHF Council meeting.

The IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean took the floor, reporting on the very bad situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, not allowing to resume handball activities in North America and the Caribbean. Consequently, the qualification event of NACHC for the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt had to be cancelled. He conveyed his gratitude to President Moustafa and the IHF Council, in particular for their decision to nominate the USA as representative of NACHC for the 2021 Men's World Championship. He stressed that his continent is highly pleased to have one representative in the Men's World Championship, which will promote the further development of handball in North America and the Caribbean.

The General Director asked about the settlement of the allocated IHF sponsorship amounting to USD 1,000,000 granted to the former Pan-American Team Handball Federation (PATHF) in 2014, taking into consideration that the remainder of the USD 1,000,000 should be shared equally by NACHC and SCAHC.

The IHF Representative North America and the Caribbean stated that a general assembly of 25 Member Federations of the former PATHF was held during which PATHF was dissolved, pointing out that the liquidation of the organisation is currently taking place. He reported on the challenges faced in determining which amounts have been spent from the USD 1,000,000. PATHF being a registered corporation in Puerto Rico, he stressed the necessity of travelling to Puerto Rico to dissolve the account and ask the account holder to return the remainder of the USD 1,000,000 to the IHF. He added that a face-to-face meeting with the former PATHF Treasurer is planned in order to settle the account.

President Moustafa asked to ascertain if any of the Member Federations of NACHC and SCAHC received funds of the USD 1,000,000 from the former PATHF. Furthermore, he confirmed that the IHF will financially support the NACHC and SCAHC Presidents in terms of their travel to Puerto Rico to dissolve the account.



Council Meeting Minutes

The IHF Representative Oceania took the floor, advising to have available full documentation regarding the allocated IHF sponsorship granted to the former PATHF when travelling to Puerto Rico to dissolve the account.

Referring to the handball activities in Oceania, the IHF Representative Oceania outlined that Australia, Guam, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Fiji have all been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, stating that the situation is still serious. He added that currently no face-to-face meetings or events are allowed and financial penalties are being imposed in case of violation of the provisions. In his capacity as ONOC Secretary General, he approved the use of an Olympic Solidarity grant, allowing the Cook Islands Handball Association to host a successful beach handball event as part of the Cook Islands Games, which largely promoted handball in Cook Islands. He conveyed his gratitude to the President of Cook Islands Handball Association, Mrs Makiroa Mitchell John, for her great efforts in this regard. He also briefly informed about the recent ONOC Annual General Meeting during which the IOC President acknowledged that the Cook Islands Games are one of the first sporting events in the region since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, he reported on his efforts to include handball in the school curriculum in Guam.

President Moustafa wished all Continental Confederations good luck and reconfirmed that the IHF is always at the disposal of the Continental Confederations in case they need any help or support.

Decision

The Council took note of the activity reports provided by the continental representatives.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1. Council decisions made by electronic communication

The Council members confirmed the following via electronic communication:

- ***Medical precautions for restarting handball activities after COVID-19***

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision dated 16 July 2020 regarding the IHF COVID-19 Medical Task Force as well as to IHF communication dated 29 May 2020 informing the IHF Member Federations about the IHF medical precautions for restarting handball activities after COVID-19.

Necessity of full compliance with the IHF medical precautions as well as the upcoming information to be issued by the COVID-19 Medical Task Force and to be implemented by all the National Federations taking part in the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt. In order to protect the health and safety of all the participating teams and their entourage, officials, delegates, staff and fans, the recommendations of the IHF COVID-19 Medical Task Force shall be applicable from the day of restarting the national teams' activities until the end of the championship.

The IHF Council shall not tolerate any failure to comply with and/or apply the IHF medical precautions which will be sent to the National Federations taking part in the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship. In case of non-compliance, the IHF Council shall be entitled to suspend the participation of the National Federation concerned in the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship.

Date of communication: 17 August 2020

Date of decision: **27 August 2020**

- ***Amendment to Regulations for IHF Competitions***

Memorandum from the IHF COC Chairman and the IHF Competitions Director regarding a proposed



Council Meeting Minutes

amendment to the Regulations for IHF Competitions.

Entitling the host nation(s) of IHF Senior, Junior and Youth World Championships of both genders to choose the order of the preliminary round group matches for their own group(s) in order to guarantee full attention and a successful start of the competition. The provision shall be applicable as from the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt.

Date of communication: 25 August 2020

Date of decision: **28 August 2020**

- **2020 Women's Youth and Junior WChs - Qualification events of SCAHC**

Memorandum from the IHF Competitions Director regarding qualification events of SCAHC for the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) and Junior (U20) World Championships

Qualification events of South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC) for the 2020 Women's Youth and Junior World Championships in Croatia and Romania, respectively, can't be organised due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, further to the proposal of SCAHC which has been confirmed by the SCAHC Congress on 11 August 2020, it was proposed to nominate the participating teams from South and Central America for the 2020 Women's Youth and Junior World Championships based on the qualification for the last Women's Youth and Junior World Championships in 2018 as mentioned below:

2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship: 1. BRA; 2. CHI; 3. ARG

2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship: 1. BRA; 2. CHI; 3. PAR

Date of communication: 31 August 2020

Date of decision: **3 September 2020**

- **2021 Men's WCh - Increase of number of players**

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision dated 1 July 2019 to increase the number of players per team on the definitive list from 16 to 18 players as from 1 January 2020 while the number of players in the match report (16) shall remain unchanged, taking into consideration that the costs for the additional players are to be borne by the respective National Federation.

Further to the recommendation of the IHF COVID-19 Medical Task Force in view of the global COVID-19 pandemic, it was proposed to further increase the number of players per team on the definitive list to 20 players while maintaining the number of players in the match report (16). The provision shall be applied at the 2021 Men's World Championship in Egypt only, taking into account that the costs for all four additional players per team shall be covered by the IHF.

Date of communication: 11 September 2020

Date of decision: **18 September 2020**

- **2020 IHF Men's Super Globe in KSA**

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision dated 16 July 2020 to postpone the 2020 IHF Men's Super Globe in Saudi Arabia, which was scheduled to be held from 6 to 10 October 2020, to a later date in 2020 due to the restrictions in the host country and several organisational challenges the IHF and Saudi Arabian Handball Federation would have to face in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Signed contract between IHF and the Saudi Arabian Handball Federation regarding the organisation of the IHF Men's Super Globe in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 in Saudi Arabia.

IHF received letter from the Saudi Arabian Handball Federation, requesting to cancel this year's edition of the IHF Men's Super Globe due to the current COVID-19 situation while extending the aforementioned contract by one year (including an IHF Men's Super Globe edition in 2023).



Council Meeting Minutes

Date of communication: 18 September 2020

Date of decision: **23 September 2020**

- ***Postponement of 2020 Women's Youth and Junior WChs***

Reference was made to the last two IHF Council meetings held by video conference on 29 April 2020 and 16 July 2020, during which the Council discussed the situation of the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship in Romania and the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship in Croatia in view of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the restrictions in the host countries and several organisational challenges the IHF and the organisers would have to face, the Council agreed to postpone the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship to a later date in 2020 while the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship was postponed to December 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic is continuing to spread around the world, considering the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in many countries. As a consequence, strict travel and entry restrictions as well as safety precautions have been imposed by many governments worldwide.

Due to the many restrictions resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it was proposed to postpone the 2020 Women's Junior (U20) World Championship and the 2020 Women's Youth (U18) World Championship to 2021, taking into consideration that the IHF shall coordinate the new dates of the events together with the host federations and the respective governments as well as with the other stakeholders involved.

Date of communication: 23 September 2020

Date of decision: **30 September 2020**

- ***2021 Men's WCh - Qualification event of NACHC***

North America and the Caribbean Handball Confederation (NACHC) is unable to organise the planned qualification event for the 2021 Men's World Championship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Proposal of Mr Jean Brihault, IHF Adviser for the New Markets' Project in USA, to nominate the USA as representative of NACHC for the 2021 Men's World Championship according to Article 2.8 of the Regulations for IHF Competitions, taking into account the important role of USA in the worldwide development of handball as well as the great achievements made on several levels since the USA's involvement in the IHF New Markets' Project, including but not limited to the qualification for the 2019 Pan-American Games. From those teams having registered for the planned 2021 Men's World Championship qualification event (CAN, GRL, PUR, USA), USA are the best-ranked team at the last official competition, namely the 2019 Pan-American Games.

Date of communication: 22 October 2020

Date of decision: **29 October 2020**

- ***New IHF Anti-Doping Rules***

New IHF Anti-Doping Rules (previously referred to as "IHF Anti-Doping Regulations") have been elaborated in line with the new 2021 World Anti-Doping Code.

The new IHF Anti-Doping Rules have been reviewed thoroughly and confirmed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code Compliance Team as well as the International Testing Agency (ITA). Further to the recommendation of WADA, the new IHF Anti-Doping Rules are based on the 2021 Model Rules for International Federations published by WADA in order to ensure full conformity with the 2021 WADA Code. New IHF Anti-Doping Rules shall come into effect as of 1 January 2021.

Date of communication: 23 October 2020

Date of decision: **30 October 2020**

- ***2021 Men's WCh - Qualification event of SCAHC***



Council Meeting Minutes

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, South and Central America Handball Confederation (SCAHC) is unable to organise the Last Chance Tournament which was planned to serve as a qualification event for the 2021 Men's World Championship for the last open place of SCAHC.

Proposal of the SCAHC Council to nominate Chile as fourth representative of SCAHC for the 2021 Men's World Championship, taking into consideration the results of the SCAHC qualification event held in Brazil in January 2020 (Chile ranked fourth behind Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay).

Date of communication: 30 October 2020

Date of decision: **6 November 2020**

- ***IHF Anti-Doping Rules & IHF Player Eligibility Code***

Further to the request of IHF Executive Committee Member Dr Frantisek Taborsky, it was proposed to add "IHF Wheelchair Handball World Championships" in the section "Scope of these Anti-Doping Rules" (page 5, point c) of the new IHF Anti-Doping Rules, taking into consideration that WADA already agreed to this additional amendment.

At the same time, Appendix 1 of the IHF Player Eligibility Code (*List of competitions recognised by the International Handball Federation*) shall be adapted accordingly, by including IHF Wheelchair Handball World Championships.

Date of communication: 9 November 2020

Date of decision: **12 November 2020**

- ***Amendments to IHF Financial Regulations & Regulations on Advertising***

Reference was made to the IHF Council decision dated 9 July 2020 to award the two available wild cards for the 2021 Men's World Championship to the Polish Handball Federation and the Handball Federation of Russia, taking into consideration that both receiving National Federations of the wild cards shall contribute to the IHF Solidarity Fund an amount to be defined by the IHF Executive Committee.

In order to have a legal framework for the above-mentioned contribution to the IHF Solidarity Fund, a corresponding provision needs to be included in the IHF Financial Regulations. At the same time, further amendments to the IHF Financial Regulations are necessary due to the fact that some provisions are outdated. As one of the proposed amendments to the IHF Financial Regulations is linked with the IHF Regulations on Advertising, corresponding amendments to the IHF Regulations on Advertising are also proposed.

Date of communication: 25 November 2020

Date of decision: **2 December 2020**

- ***COVID-19-Related Regulations for Egypt 2021***

As the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt is approaching in the light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the ***IHF Working Group for Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations*** has been formed.

The duty of the working group is to establish special COVID-19-related regulations applicable in the event of any positive COVID-19 case during the 2021 IHF Men's World Championship in Egypt. Following several meetings of the working group, the Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations have been developed, which only consider topics related to match evaluation while other aspects are covered by existing regulations.

In particular, it is proposed in the Egypt 2021 COVID-19-Related Regulations that the ***COVID-19 Advisory Board*** confirms the disqualifications of players, teams, coaches and referees and the remaining stakeholders in case of any positive COVID-19 test result.

The ***Disciplinary Commission*** shall be responsible for ruling on usual competition-related cases according to Article 2.1 of the IHF Legal Provisions as well as on violations of the obligations set out in the COVID-19 Medical Precaution Plan as well as the COVID-19 Competition-Related Guidelines for Egypt 2021 during the 2021



Council Meeting Minutes

Men's World Championship

The **Jury** shall be responsible, as second stage of appeal according to Article 2.1 of the IHF Legal Provisions, for ruling on appeals lodged against any decisions of the Disciplinary Commission as well as the COVID-19 Advisory Board during the 2021 Men's World Championship.

Date of communication: 27 November 2020

Date of decision: **4 December 2020**

The next IHF Council meeting will take place in Cairo on 30 January 2021.

President Moustafa thanked the participants for the constructive meeting and closed the session. He conveyed once again his wishes for continued good health and safety to all participants.

INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL FEDERATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Moustafa', positioned above the printed name.

Dr Hassan Moustafa
President